# THE V. I. A. ANNUAL

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT

Vol. XVI

Tyngsborough, Massachusetts

February, 1911

#### THE ANDREWS HOUSE

THIS place was a part of the Henry Farwell farm, passed into the hands of James Gordon, and after his death, was bought by Asa Underwood. It embraced the land between the brook and Mill Pond on the east, E. S. L. Swallow and Enlo Perham on the west, the schoolhouse lot on the

Histories that his tavern was the meeting-place of the First Parish, Dunstable, town meetings, before the Meetinghouse was built. That he was an educated man we have proof, as some of the store bills are extant, made out in a clear bold hand; and he was also a trusty man, as evinced by the receipt, "Received Payment for my Master James Gordon.... Ovid Houston." These bills were in







THE ANDREWS HOUSE

north, and the Upper Pond on the south. There was a building, presumably a house, on the lot. Where it stood is a matter of conjecture. It was standing in 1760 but in 1824 it was "long since demolished."

Tradition has woven its romance around the two houses, linking them together in such a manner that it seems almost desecration to "break the woof of fancy, by drawing the warp of fact."

It is said that here was the first tavern and store in Tyngsboro. It was presided over by a negro, named Ovid Houston. He was a model landlord, fat, good-natured, and well thought of by his fellow townsmen. We notice in the

the 1770 decade. He was twice married, both wives lying in the Old Little's graveyard in South Nashua. He is said to have been buried in the tomb in the old garden, north of Mrs. Andrew's house.

Three children are mentioned: a son Grant, who it is said received a college education and was the ancestor of that celebrated singer to whom so many of us have had the pleasure of listening, and who died but a short time ago in Fitchburg, Mrs. Julia Houston West; and two daughters, one of whom died young, the other the wife of Mr. Jonathan Hamblett.

Really, we have no data of the building or

the builder of the present house, but the claim of the descendants of Mr. Underwood, that he built the house circa 1780–90, seems to coincide with the style of architecture, which would place it in that period.

Mr. Underwood was married in 1790, and as no record of him is found after about 1810, about which time Dr. Thomas moved here, we conjecture that he sold the place to the Doctor who lived here until his death, about 1851. About this time Maj. Ephraim Andrews of Lowell bought the place and settled here, in whose family it still remains.

Formerly the hill sloped to the watering trough. Dr. Thomas built the bank wall in front of the house, thus giving the path that connects the Nashua with the Dunstable road along its base a graceful curve instead of the sharp corner that would have resulted had the turn been made at the watering trough. He also planted the chestnut trees in front of the house, so feelingly mentioned by Miss Leighton in her "Idyls of a Country Village."

#### THE BOY SCOUTS OF TYNGSBOROUGH.

Boy Scouts everywhere in our United States are beginning to realize now that to be loyal to their country they must be prepared to do peace scouting—that means learning to do many things.

Baden-Powell founder of the Scout movement in England says, "A scout, as you know is generally a soldier who is chosen for his cleverness and pluck to go out in front of an army in war to find out where the enemy are and report to the commander all about them.

But, beside war scouts, there are also peace scouts, i. e., men who in peace time carry out work which requires the same kind of abilities. These are frontiersmen of all parts of our Empire. The "Trappers" of North America, hunters of Central Africa, the British pioneers, explorers, and missionaries over Asia and all wild parts of the world, the bushmen and drovers of Australia, the constabulary of Northwest Canada and of South Africa—all are peace scouts, i. e., they understand living out in the jungles, and they can find their way anywhere, are able to read meaning from the smallest signs and foot tracks; they know how to look after their health when far away from any doctors, are strong and plucky, and ready to face

any danger, and are always keen to help each other. They are accustomed to take their lives in their hands, and to fling them down without hesitation if they can help their country by doing so. They give up everything, their personal comforts and desires in order to get their work done. They do all this not for their own amusement but because it is their duty to their country, fellow countrymen and employers.

It is a grand life, but it cannot be suddenly entered upon by any man who thinks he would like it, unless he has prepared himself beforehand.

Those who succeed best are those who learned scouting while they were still boys. Scouting becomes useful in any kind of life a man may like to take up whether it is soldiering or business life, it is even valuable for a man who goes in for science, finding out things about air and light and so on.

The scout movement has grown in America very rapidly because men of influence realize how much our country needs loyal citizens who not only are willing to do their duty but know how to be useful and are quick to see opportunities as they arise. Scoutcraft is useful in every phase of life. The scout's motto is "Be prepared" and his watchword is "Duty." Scouts must pass tests in woodcraft, knowledge of animals, trees, ability to recognize odors, to observe quickly small things, to remember accurately. To quote from "Scouting for Boys:" "By noticing small things on the ground a scout may often find lost articles which he can restore to their owners. By noticing the details of a harness, and so on he can often save a horse the pain of an ill-fitting bit or strap. Remember that it is a disgrace to a scout if when he is with other people they see anything big or little, near or far, high or low, that he has not seen for himself."

Scouts should be accustomed to living in the open, to preparing their own food, should know how to build fires, put up tents or huts, tie logs together, build bridges for their own use in crossing streams, build rafts and be able to find their way day or night and to direct others.

A scout is trustworthy, always loyal to God, obedient to parents, and tries to do a good turn for somebody every day.

Medals are given scouts for heroic service or for skilful work in many occupations. Carpentry, forging, farming, and many other kinds of work are rewarded. Since the scouts started two years ago over 100 medals have been awarded for life saving. The boys learn just how to act in times of fire, drowning and severe accidents of many kinds. Training in these things gives a scout confidence so that when an accident happens he can keep cool and immediately step out to do the right thing.

Scouts must know how to take care of their own health—to quote again, "In order to be a good scout a fellow has to be strong, healthy and active, and he can make himself so if he takes a little care about it. To sleep with the window open, becoming accustomed to the fresh air, thus avoiding colds and rheumatism, to take exercises for straightening the back and deep breathing exercises to develop the lungs and improve the circulation. A good rub down with a wet rough towel, even if you cannot get a bath, is what every real scout takes and is of the utmost importance.

Remember we must be good citizens and firm friends all around among ourselves. Work for the good of the State or of the business in which you are employed, and you will find that as you succeed in doing this you will be getting all the promotion and success you want. Try and prepare yourself for this by seriously taking up the subjects they teach you at school, not because it amuses you but because it is your duty to your country to improve yourself. Take up your mathematics, your history and your language learning in that spirit, and you'll get on. Don't think of yourself but of your country and your employers. Self-sacrifice pays all round."

And boys everywhere about us are proving what Baden-Powell has said. They are getting the scout spirit.

Under Scoutmaster Taft nine Tyngsborough scouts passed the tests admitting them to the Tenderfoot Class, learning how to tie the standard knots and learning the Scout law. They have since, under Scoutmaster Butterfield, learned among other things to box the compass and to lay and light a fire using not more than two matches, and the Semaphore signalling. The qualifications for Second-Class Scout for which they are now making ready are:

- 1. Have at least one month's service as a Tenderfoot.
  - 2. Elementary first aid and bandaging.
- 3. Signaling, elementary knowledge of Semaphore or Morse alphabet.
- 4. Track half a mile in twenty-five minutes, or describe satisfactorily the contents of one store window out of four observed for one minute each.

- 5. Go a mile in twelve minutes at "Scouts' pace."
- 6. Lay and light a fire, using not more than two matches.
- 7. Cook a quarter of a pound of meat and two potatoes without cooking utensils other than the regulation billy.
- 8. Have at least twenty-five cents in a savings bank.
- 9. Know the sixteen principal points of the compass.

There are now thirteen qualified scouts making three patrols who, with others who are now qualifying, hold their meetings twice a week, the indoor meeting on Wednesday evening, at which they learn the necessary data which cannot so well be learned afield and the out-of-door meeting on Saturday afternoon which will be in the nature of hockey as long as the ice lasts, teaching the boys to work shoulder to shoulder, and later will take them into the woods to learn all that they can and to become expert in such out-of-door sports as may make them strong, healthy, robust citizens.

The Scoutmaster, Wallace P. Butterfield, and his assistant, Royal Gilson, are ready to give much thoughtful assistance and have already won the hearty co-operation of their patrols, which are as follows:

#### NORTH PATROL-

Patrol Leader—Webster Hoagland Assistant—William Thompson Henry Boot Bertrand Grant

#### SOUTH PATROL-

Patrol Leader—Clarence Woodward Assistant—Lawrence Brown Percy Reno Flint William Brow

#### EAST PATROL-

Patrol Leader—Howard McLoon Assistant—Henry Farrow Charles Coburn Max Sherburne Nelson McLoon

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### THE V. I. A. ANNUAL

Published each year by the Tyngsborough Village
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### Editorial

IN PRESENTING THE sixteenth volume of the V. I. A. Annual to its readers the executive committee asks itself the question: "Is this publication and are the achievements of the V. I. A. commensurate with the rosy visions of the editors of those first volumes in the nineties. Their hope and unbounded enthusiasm suggested that after sixteen years of growth the V. I. A. would be a more dominating force in the community than it is. They were tremendously in earnest in those days-much more so than we seem to be todaysimply because they were reaching out into new fields and were placing ideals before themselves which taxed to the utmost their powers. Today we are carrying on with comparative ease, or rather we are helping the town and the state to carry on what was once a heavy burden for the brave little V. I. A. to bear alone. The dream of electric lighted streets has come true, the village is well provided with gravel sidewalks which are cared for by the town road commissioners. Neat grass plots are laid out here and there through the village at the intersections of the roads and these are kept mown by the Association. Oil and street lamps are provided for various people who are willing to care for them in the outskirts of the town. It would seem that if the V. I. A. were to hold today the important place in the town life which it held in its early years it must "seek new fields to conquer," it must bestir itself and use its wasting energy in attempting the difficult—perhaps even the unattainable. It is indeed fitting that an association with our past should be the chief force in moulding and directing the intellectual and social life of the town. It is not probable that this will ever be brought about unless the association itself so wills and finds expression for its will,—the executive committee being too much bound by precedent to attempt any real change in its activities.

#### THE OUTLOOK

What is to be the future of the Tyngsborough Village Improvement Association? Is it nearing the end of its usefulness, and is the time soon coming when there will be no further need for the existence of this organization?

When it has constructed sidewalks, removed advertising signs and rubbish heaps, beautified the public grass plots, and installed electric lights, has it done all that there is for it to do?

Far from it, for all this is only the beginning, the first cast, so to speak, and the maintenance of these innovations can be assured only by a larger and stronger association that takes a vital interest in these things.

The sidewalks need constant care in the way of rebuilding and putting on new soil after heavy rains, so that one will not "find it better walking in the road," and in keeping the grass well clipped along the sides. It would seem, by the way, as though a little more activity in this direction would not come amiss. And did not the grass plots suffer just a little from neglect last summer?

The installing of the electric lights would be of but little benefit to the village were there to be no power supplied for lighting them. The expense of this must be partly borne by the V. I. A., at least until the town fathers deem it expedient to assume the full responsibility of it.

And so with every improvement that is made this organization takes upon itself a new burden which must be borne by the V. I. A. of future years.

Then how many other improvements are ready to suggest themselves as soon as the means for carrying them out can be found! For instance, the removal of the white board fence which extends from the village to the depot and replacing it by an artistic and inconspicuous iron, or even low stone fence, which would detract less from the beautiful view of the river at this point. What a different impression, too, of the town this would give to those passing through in the trains!

There is a fine opportunity offered, on the east side, for a small park between the boulevard and the river, extending from the bridge south for a quarter of a mile or more. A charming spot in which to further exploit the beauty of the river! What more picturesque location could have been chosen for a settlement than that selected by Tyngsborough's forefathers, on the banks of

the Merrimac river, rich, at this point, in curves and trees and flowers! We should appreciate and cherish this gift of Nature too highly to allow it to become blemished or hidden by any unnecessary obstructions.

Again, could not the V. I. A. intercede with the officials of the Boston & Maine Railroad for more attractive grounds about the station? A much needed improvement!

May we not also hope that sometime the main streets in the village will be sprinkled during the dusty summer months so that we may once more have the comfort of living out on our porches and of having a clean house with open windows, as in the days of no boulevard and no automobiles. These welcome innovations certainly bring a demand for one more—the sprinkling cart.

There are many other needs of this kind that might be mentioned which would indicate work for a strong and active V. I. A. for years to come. But we must not devote all of our attention to the merely physical improvement of the community, for, in order to have a perfect whole, there must be a true balance between the mental, moral and the physical life. There must be the mental and social uplift as well as the physical upbuilding.

The course of lectures and entertainments offered this winter under the auspices of the V. I. A. is a step in this direction and, it is hoped, will lead to further helps of this kind. How restful it is to have our thoughts turned from the cares and duties of everyday life, to the beauty and grandeur of Yellowstone Park, or to the scenes in the far distant little village of Oberammergau, during the presentation of the Passion Play! How enjoyable to be given a hearty laugh by an able impersonator! And music is always welcome to Tyngsborough audiences. All this has been brought to our very door this winter and cannot have failed in its purpose.

Right in line with this phase of the work of the V. I. A. comes another suggestion for future activity.

What is more elevating than music, and what would do more towards the mental and moral uplift of a community than to bring together, once a week, all those who can sing, much or little, for an evening's study of the work of one of the great masters, under a competent director? In short, why might not the V. I. A. establish a Singing School,—call it by a more modern name if you will,—Choral Union, Musical Association, or the Handel and Hayden, Jr.

Recalling the days of the old Singing School leads us to believe that the people of Tyngsborough would respond heartily to this plan, and that it would strengthen and improve the village life.

But these things must come slowly, one by one, and no doubt the Association is biding its time for the making of these and many other improvements of which it sees the need. Just so soon as it is relieved of some of its present responsibilities or the strength of the organization warrants it, we shall see other innovations which will give us as much comfort and self-respect as do our shade trees, sidewalks and electric lights.

The outlook, then, for the Tyngsborough Village Association is one of work and progress and the citizens of the town, it is to be hoped, will not fail to give it their hearty sympathy and co-operation.

The advertisements in this paper are a directory of those who wish to do business with the people of this town and the readers of this paper. Not only this but it shows in a substantial way who are friendly to the V. I. A. and what it represents—the public welfare and improvement of the town. It is believed that every advertiser is not only friendly, but honest, and that their goods are entirely reliable, and that price and quality considered, discriminating customers cannot do better elsewhere. If this is correct, then you, gentle reader, and especially the citizens of the town and all who are interested in the V. I. A. and its objects should make it a point to trade with and turn trade towards those who have the grace and good will to invite you to do business with them through this publication—the profit of which is applied to village and town improvement.

If customers will let it be known that they read and appreciate the advertisements it will make the path of the solicitors next year a little less thorny, and perhaps more fruitful. Business people are always glad to know if their advertisements are read and if they bring results.

#### THE SOCIAL SCIENCE CLUB.

The solar system and the movements of the planets around the sun is often used as an illustration of two opposing forces at work everywhere, and the good that comes when these two forces are balanced.

Two forces are at work for human welfare. One is scholarly, sometimes academic, and discusses subjects of little interest to the average person. The other is found with those whose time and strength are largely taken up in making a living, but who are intelligent and sympathetic, and who desire to work for humanity, when they see the opportunity.

They are apt to say "charity begins at home," but often forget that it does not end there.

These two forces have been at work for several years in Tyngsborough in what we call "The Social Science Club." These forces have not always been balanced, and rarely are ever balanced, in any individual or organization; but good comes by each having its time.

This winter the club is studying home problems which the V. I. A. might and ought to study; but we find that when we meet in the town hall, we don't get near enough together, and our discussions amount to but little; but in a neighbor's sittingroom we do better.

Some may think we have discussed home problems enough, and that it is worse than useless to be always at it, but we can all think of a few things that we would like to see done, and that person is to be pitied who does not, but is perfectly satisfied with things as they are.

A handful of us meet and speak and are all surprised at the number of little things there are to be considered.

We do not expect anything we say or do will produce much, if any, fruit at present. No very valuable fruit comes that way; but we can at least stir the soil.

These are some of the aims of the Social Science Club, this winter, and its meetings are open to all.

J. D.

#### LOCAL ITEMS

Mr. James Bayles, who bought the Blanchard estate of Arthur Hosford, has had all the modern improvements put in the house, ready for occupancy in the Spring.

Mr. William Blanchard has bought a lot of land of Mr. Marshall Curtis on Sherburne Avenue Heights. He will return to Tyngsborough in the Spring and build a Bungalow. We shall all gladly welcome him home.

Mr. J. B. Sutton has sold his farm of thirteen acres, to Mr. Vaughn of Hudson, N. H., who will take possession the first of April. Mr. Sutton would be glad to live in Tyngsborough, could he find an available house.

Mr. Murray Parrish, who has lived at Johnson's Corner the past year has bought the Felker property on the line of the Tyngsborough-Lowell Electrics. Mrs. Parker will return to her home at the Corner.

Mr. Geo. Robeson, clerk for Nelson & Perham, has bought the Scholefield home of Mr. Nelson.

Mr. A. A. Flint has put in a sawmill in addition to his box shop, and is making other needed improvements; also fitting up the barn on the Nashua road for a blacksmith's shop.

Mr. D. J. Williams is going to dispose of his stock of cattle, having decided there is no profit in it, making milk.

Rev. T. S. Tyng, a descendant of Judge Tyng and a former missionary to Japan and still engaged in missionary work in their behalf, was recently a guest of Mr. J. B. Butterfield. His mission to Tyngsborough was to secure a family lot in the Tyng cemetery which was granted him. Do we deem this a peculiarity, or deep feeling for his ancestors and the town which bears his name?

Mr. Howard Foster, the efficient committee on Farmers' Institutes has arranged to hold one in Tyngsborough early in March.

Extensive repairs have been made in the Evangelical Church: The organ has been moved back, choir platform built, hard wood floors and pews, new decorations, etc.

The Electric Light Company has increased its capital and put in a new dynamo.

One more link on the State highway, from No. Chelmsford to Tyngsborough will connect the Lowell and Nashua road. The work will be completed this Spring.

The gang of men who are working for the U. S. Moth Commission have made pleasing improvements on State roads and are continuing their work on roads leading to Dunstable.

#### **GIBRALTAR**

ON THE morning of July 4th the passengers on board the S. S. Romanic were astir early,—for that day was to be spent at Gibraltar. When we first went on deck, we were passing through the narrowest part of the strait, and could see Spain on our left and Africa on our right. Finally the rock came into view and we caught ourselves looking for the advertisement of a certain insurance company—so like that picture is the rock itself.

Anchor was cast in the harbor of Gibraltar and the great liner was soon surrounded by small craft, laden with fresh fruit, vegetables and fish, etc. Long ropes, on the ends of which were fastened baskets, were thrown to the larger boat, and eagerly drawn up by the steerage passengers. They placed coins in the baskets and lowered them again; the venders exchanged the coins for fruit or vegetables.

Among the cabin passengers great excitement prevailed. On every side was heard, "How soon can we go ashore?" "Are we going in row boats?" and many other equally important questions.

Soon a tender came out and, after due formalities, we were allowed to go aboard. Here were boys selling baskets of strawberries, cherries, or fresh figs, for which they found ready customers. Some of the wiser people waited until they reached land and then bought the same thing for half the price.

"The strength of Gibraltar!"—so often thoughtlessly said in allusion to the supreme military strength of the world. Figures mean little—the rock is fourteen hundred feet high. But stand on a pier at Gibraltar and let the eye follow the perpendicular wall of the gigantic rock to its bare uncompromising summit and you are duly impressed by the mere natural grandeur.

A single glance of the eye takes in, near at hand, great wharves, storehouses, quarters for soldiers and sailors, then tier upon tier of redroofed stucco houses clinging to the side of the cliff. Still raising the eye we see the old Moorish castle and pause to think of the time when the castle was ruled by proud Moorish lords. We are not half way up yet. Not many more houses are seen, but what are those queer rectangular light spots scattered over the surface? Great cemented areas connected with enormous cisterns to save rain water, for fresh water is not plenty at Gibraltar. Looking still higher we see tiny black specks here and there, which we did not notice at first. The

ever-ready informant says that they are loopholes for cannon, for the great summit is honeycombed with galleries and chambers; there are soldiers who stay up there all the time with food and supplies enough to last a whole regiment a year.

We are overpowered by the thought of the strength of the nation that has taken this natural stronghold for her own, and by the skill and ingenuity of man made it absolutely impregnable. "The strength of Gibraltar" begins to mean more than a mere phrase—it is strength in the superlative degree.

The fortification, covering two square miles, is on English territory. Between that and the Spanish possessions is a strip of land known as the neutral ground. It belongs to neither country but is patrolled by both Spanish and English soldiers. It is uninhabited, uncultivated and uncared for—it is simply a strip of waste land separating England from Spain.

Having crossed this neutral ground we arrived at the gates of the Spanish town, Le Lanier, and were informed that our carriage was English and could not enter the town. We must walk or hire a Spanish carriage.

As soon as we were through the gates we were surrounded by children begging for "pennies." In every land they seem to know that one word and to delight in showing their knowledge of the English language.

The town itself is very old and not at all attractive; the streets are narrow and dirty. We visited a bull ring and were urgently invited to remain for the bull fight to be held that evening.

We did not care to remain long but returned to Gibraltar. There such strange sights greeted us that we of New England felt that we had reached the Orient itself, instead of its most western portal. Street venders were driving little African donkeys, with panniers filled with vegetables or kegs of water which were sold for a half-penny each. Goats were driven from house to house delivering milk, fresh, and directly to the consumer. Springless carriages with high stepping horses carried parties of gay Spanish beauties, mantilla and fan both in evidence. Next perhaps, a smart English turnout with perfectly correct coachman and footman, and equally correct officer and his lady.

The pedestrians were a study in themselves. Sailors and soldiers everywhere, English civilians in white linen, sleek looking Moors in all the oriental splendor of turbans, loose flowing gowns and

beautiful sandals, brown-skinned Arabs, more painted Spanish girls, English nursemaids with their pretty little charges, street gamins of all shades of brown, Jews, Hindoos and I know not how many more. Not the least noticeable was the American tourist, and now and then tourists from other lands, even far away Japan.

Many of the stores were real oriental bazaars, full of beautiful embroideries, Maltese lace, brass ware and jewelry. Not like those of Boylston Street, but where real bartering goes on. The store-keeper comes down in his price by half at once, all the time so subtly flattering you and your nation and expatiating upon the value of the article that you are many times on the point of closing the bargain. If you are able to resist the temptation he will all but offer to give it to you; and then as you go away mutter a malediction. This you do not notice for another garrulous merchant has smilingly greeted you and commenced on the same proceeding. An interesting and picturesque way of doing business, but give me fixed prices!

When we returned to our steamer-home it was hard to realize that we had been on land only a few hours. Soon anchor was weighed, and we backed from the harbor, then steamed south of Gibraltar, passed it and left it behind—a dark silhouette against a beautiful sunset sky.

B. S.

#### THE CONTROL OF FIRE.

WHEN man learned to control fire he took a prodigious step in the way of progress in power and dominion over the earth. Before he learned how to use fire he was scarcely to be called man. He was not even a very respectable animal. Man without tools is up against his environment wherever he is. The rabbit can outrun him, the ox live where he would starve, the wild hog would make mince meat of him in a tooth and toe nail contest. But for fire he would have no tools or machinery, and consequently no clothes, no houses to speak of, and precious little food. But for his control of fire the greater part of the earth would be too cold for his endurance.

Comfort in this zone the greater part of the year would be out of the question. He would have to migrate as the birds do on the approach of frost. But he couldn't do this as readily as the birds—for obvious reasons. Until man learned how to make and control fire, he could have no sharp-cutting tools—no forges, no iron, no steel,

no engines, no railways, steamships, or mills for the making of food, clothing and furniture. But for the heat of the sun there would be neither vegetable nor animal life upon the earth. But for the art of controlling fire man would be a naked savage skulking in the woods and finding but miserable shelter from the storm and cold in caves and the thick branches of dense forests. But when he learned how to build a fire at will, and then learned to control it and use it, he not only invented a portable climate—and increased his food supply a thousandfold—but he became as a demi-god. By its aid he was able to refine metals from the crude ore, forge and mold them into tools and shapes of use for comfort and power. With fire seven times hot he dissolves the chemical elements and recombines them to suit his fancy or need.

Is it any wonder that people have worshipped fire? It still looks good to us on cold days. And as we think of how much we owe to its agency he must indeed be thick-witted and hard-hearted who is not touched with a sense of appreciation and gratitude if not of reverence.

The ancient Greeks told the story of Prometheus, how he stole fire from heaven and brought it down to earth, at his own brave cost—the price of all progress. The myth expresses the thought, that the control of fire was a perquisite of the Gods, by virtue of which they held their dominion and power. Naturally they were jealous of their special privilege and cruelly did they punish the one who dared to bring it to the earth and give it to the keeping of man. Henceforth man becomes a demi-god and walks the earth and rules it as such. And yet—and yet— man's conquest of fire is far from complete. Of all preventable losses in America today the fire loss is the greatest. When a conflagration is raging in a forest or a city, with all our science and invention we are powerless to cope with it or curb it. The cost of uncontrolled fires in this country, including property destroyed, cost of maintaining fire departments and fire insurance it has been estimated is about \$15.00 for each man, woman and child.

We seem to be the most careless people on earth in regard to fire. In the European countries the per capita fire loss is only about one hundredth of what it is with us.

We are beginning to wake up in regard to public conservation of natural resources. But forest fires are a greater loss than that caused by the woodman's axe or the lumberman's saw. The forest fire is all loss. Within the last two years we have had some of the most disastrous forest fires known to history—disastrous in the number of lives lost and the amount of timber burned and timber land ruined. Already the states and the national government are taking systematic measures to prevent fires and to extinguish those that do get started before they assume the proportions of an irresistible conflagration.

In the matter of protection against fire Tyngsborough is ahead of many other towns of its size. A few years ago 60 or 70 portable fire extinguishers of the liquid chemical type were purchased and distributed among the residents who were willing to take care of them. A goodly number are always on tap at the town hall and the box shop. As a result, all parts of the town are pretty well covered, nearly everyone, women as well as men, know how to operate the machines. They more than save the cost of the equipment every year. Those who have had experience with the appliances feel it has been a very judicious investment. One or two forty gallon machines on wheels—the others are of only three gallon capacity and must be carried by hand-would leave little to be desired in the way of adequate protection to town and village property. These machines automatically throw a chemical stream forty times as effective as water, from 80 to 100 feet and is under perfect control by means of 50 feet of hose and a cut-off nozzle at the end. If the control of fire is the mark of a high grade of civilization, Tyngsborough will rank close up to A 1 with only a very little additional equipment.

N. H.

#### TYNGSBOROUGH ANNUAL.

"Straws show which way the wind blows."

One of the straws which shows Tyngsborough to be a good place to live in is the fact that people who go away from the town to see if they can find a place they like better usually come back sooner or later.

Another is that those who come from other places to make their homes like the place and remain with us.

Nature has been very kind to the town, and has distributed her beauties with a lavish hand. She has given us a great diversity of river and lake, ponds and brooks, hills and level fields. She must

have been in her pleasantest mood when Tyngsborough was created.

The citizens of Tyngsborough are the best natured ever. They are always ready and waiting to extend the glad hand of welcome to anyone who will come and live with them either as summer campers or as permanent citizens.

We have one of the best lighted and cleanest villages to be found in this vicinity; with good schools and churches; also good electric and steam railroad service. There are a great variety of building lots which may be bought or leased suitable for the humblest camp or the finest residence, either beside some lake or stream or crowning some sighty elevation; some in the dense woods, and some near the Centre where families may live the year through while the breadwinner is away in the busy city during the day.

To one who feels the call of the wild and longs to get back to nature, as nearly as possible, we would say, "Come to Tyngsborough, look us over well, select the place that suits your needs, buy it and settle down and be one of us for better or for worse. It will probably be for good if not better.

The village is an easy place to find for it is in the beautiful valley of the Merrimac River midway between Lowell, Mass., and Nashua, N. H., and only 33 miles from Boston as the train goes. There is half-hour trolley service from the Centre to North Chelmsford and Lowell, seven miles distant, and steam cars to Boston and way stations five times a day, and trains to Nashua, N. H., and beyond five times daily.

On the east side of the town there is trolley service every hour between Nashua, N. H., and Lowell, Mass. So it is an easy place to reach. Come and see.

At the last meeting of the V. I. A. Executive Committee the matter of publishing it six times a year was discussed. This would make it a regular publication, thus giving it a lower rate of postage through the mails, and would enlarge its scope and influence as an educational and advertising medium.

Hitherto the annual town meeting has been held in April. But beginning this year the meeting will be on the first Monday in March, the same date as in most of the towns throughout New England, where this most democratic form of popular government prevails.

## Treasurer's Report.

November 11, 1910.

1909	
Nov. 13—Balance	\$201.27
Annual meeting supper	2.14
1909 Membership dues	13.25
1910 1910 Membership dues	30.00
Feb. 24, 25—Annual fair	185.08
April 8—Town meeting dinner	5.51
	\$437.25
PAYMENTS	
L. T. Braddon, lighting lamps	\$ 14.15
Removing lamps and posts	1.50
Nelson I. Perham, oil, etc	17.92
Ada Louise Sherburne, school prize.	10.00
Anna Pelletier, school prize	5.00
Printing receipts	.95
Rev. Sarah A. Dixon, Address	10.00
Flowers for funerals of deceased	
members	19.00
V. I. A. Annual	63.61
Town of Tyngsborough for electric	
lighting	100.00
Sidewalk construction	118.22
Balance	76.90
	\$437.25

#### GRANGE NOTES.

Tyngsborough Grange has just closed a busy and prosperous year. One of the most enjoyable evenings was "Reunion Night," May 10th, under the able management of Mr. and Mrs. James Danforth. Invitations were sent to all who had ever been members of this grange and also to friends from neighboring granges. A fine supper was served and a social evening was spent in greeting old friends and listening to words of encouragement and cheer from our visitors.

Tyngsborough Grange has always identified itself closely with the interests of our public schools. On Children's Night, June 14th, there was an exhibition of industrial work done by the school children and also a demonstration of the work done in the schools in reading, number work, music, drawing, etc., which reflected great credit on the teachers and superintendent who had charge of it. This entertainment was open to the public and great interest was shown—the hall being literally packed to the doors. After the exhibition the children were given a treat of strawberries and ice cream.

The fifth annual grange fair was held at the Hairpin Turn October 1st. The exhibits were of a high order of merit and the interest of the people

in these events shows no abatement. The new officers for 1911 have entered upon their work with an interest and enthusiasm which promises a very successful year. At the meeting of January 24th a resolution was passed protesting against the repeal of our present laws for the protection of our game birds and it was voted that a copy of the same be sent to the senator and representative of this district. The granges of our state have done good work in obtaining the passage of our present bird laws and their influence has also been strongly exerted toward obtaining the parcels post and other laws of great benefit to our rural communities.

F. L. S.

## Annual Fair

OF THE

#### VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

TOWN HALL, TYNGSBORO

Thursday and Friday Nights, February 23 and 24

## The Tyngsboro Dramatic Club will present the following attractions:

Thursday evening, the melodrama "LITTLE BUCKSHOT."

Danny Mack, a Government Scout Known in the West as Little Buckshot Harry Littlehale Mr. Smith from Nevada (in Reality One "Jonas Lee" from Utah,) a Mormon "Saint"

HOWARD NOBLE

SIMON SLADE, His Henchman; One of the Infamous "Destroying Angels" KIRKE WALKER

Hon. Ira Barton, a Wealthy Bostonian

HORACE BANCROFT YOUNG MR. WEED, called "Juniper," His Nephew, Inventor of "Weed's Patent Panacea"

CHARLES LITTLEHALE

PATRICK PHELAN, Barton's Handy Man

JOHN SHAW

ZEB TUCKER, a Wells-Fargo Man

NORMAN SHERBURNE

ELSIE BARTON, a Plucky American Girl

BERNICE SHERBURNE

Kit, Her Sister, "Too Old for Dolls, Too Young for a Beau" CORA KABLE

Nora, a Maid Servant Bella Bridgford

WILD FLOWER, a Half-Breed Indian Girl

FANNY LITTLEHALE

Act I. Drawing-room at Barton's residence in Boston. Danny unmasks the "Saint."

Act II, The Overland Route, a rocky pass in Utah. A lapse of ten months. The Destroying Angels.

Act III, A rough cabin in the mountains. A lapse of a day. The "Saint's" proposal. A clever ruse. The Mormon gets his reward.

Friday evening, the comedy "BROTHER JOSIAH."

Tosiah Armstrong, a Wealthy Farmer

CHARLES LITTLEHALE

Wellington Armstrong, a Wealthy Broker

TOHN SHAW

BENJAMIN BUTLER ARMSTRONG, Josiah's Son

NORMAN SHERBURNE

WILLIAM LE BLANC, a Wealthy Broker

HARRY LITTLEHALE

HENRY NEWCOMBE, a Rising Young Author

RAY SHERBURNE

HIRAM PENSTROKE, Wellington Armstrong's Confidential Man KIRKE WALKER

TAMES. Wellington Armstrong's Butler

HOWARD NOBLE

MRS. WELLINGTON ARMSTRONG, Wife of Wellington

FANNIE LITTLEHALE

JEMIMY, Wife of Josiah CORA KABFE GLADYS ARMSTRONG, Daughter of Wellington

BERNICE SHERBURNE

EDITH LE BLANC, Daughter of Le Blanc

JEANETTE GRANT

PLACE-New York City. Home of Wellington Armstrong. TIME-The Present.

Music by MRS. NICHOLS' LADIES' ORCHESTRA

#### NECROLOGY.

Mrs. Sarah Blanchard died at her home in Tyngsborough village March 5, 1910. She was the daughter of William and Betsey (Perham) Sherburne, born in Pelham, N. H., September 26, 1820. Later her father bought the farm where J. Granville Queen now lives.

In her early life she was employed in the cotton mills in Lowell.

At this time the duties of the managers of the Lowell mills included the physical, moral and religious well-being of the operatives, as well as the stockholders' dividends.

This was the period of the "Lowell Offering," and she was one of that interesting company of cloth makers immortalized by Dickens in his "American Notes." Here she became acquainted with her future husband, Cornelius Blanchard, then an overseer in the Massachusetts mills. He was an inventor and patentee of a loom for weaving

They were married May 23, 1841. Later he was manager of cotton mills in Waltham, Mass., Amoskeag, N. H., Clinton and Chicopee Falls, Mass. He then, as agent with Patrick Jackson of Lowell, as treasurer, built the Hamden Mills at Helynder Mass. the Hamden Mills at Holyoke, Mass.

Here he died in 1856. She then returned to Tyngsborough and built the house now owned by Charles Sherburne, where she lived until 1861, when she removed to Lowell.

In 1869 she bought the place now owned by J. N. Bodwell, and later moved to her home on Dunstable road where she died.

She was a member of the Evangelical Church, and took a deep interest in local affairs.

Mrs. Junia Lawrence, wife of Daniel A. Lawrence, was the daughter of Nathaniel and Rebecca (Blanchard) Shaw of Nashua, where she was born in 1850, and where she was married January 26, 1870.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence resided in Nashua a few years. then moved to Mr. Lawrence's old home in Tyngsborough. Later they removed to their pleasant home in the village, where she died March 18, 1910.

Mrs. Lawrence was a member of the Unitarian Society, the V. I. A., and various social organizations of

Her strong executive ability and her power of guiding without friction, made her an invaluable member of the community.

She served as a member of the executive committee of the V. I. A. several years.

Mrs. Annie F. Woodward was the daughter of John and Abby (Butman) Keyes, and was born in Tyngsborough, October 9, 1852.

In her early life she was an expert brush setter, and was in the employ of H. A. Washburn.

In 1890 she was married to Leroy Woodward of Dunstable. They settled on the Americus Parkhurst place near the Dunstable village where she died March 23, 1910.

She was a member of the Tyngsborough Grange.

During the last years of her life she was so crippled with rheumatism as to require the use of crutches the

Rev. William Brown, Pastor of the Unitarian Church, was born at Concord, Mass., September 10, 1838, and died at Tyngsborough, March 25, 1910. He received his early education in Concord; was graduated from Amherst, 1860; entered the Harvard Divinity School the same year. His first ministry was at Sherborn where he was ordained, November, '63, and remained nine years. Succeeding pastorates were at Walpole, N. H., '73-'83; West Bridgewater, '83-'88; East Marshfield, '89-'90; Tyngsborough, twelve years, '90 until his retirement, 1902. He continued to live here and was one of our most useful citizens, working for the public schools, the library and educational clubs of the town: always a helper to the church he had clubs of the town; always a helper to the church he had devotedly served for more years than any other pastor since its first minister.

He inherited some of his qualities from the best colonial yeomanry. His earliest New England ancestors, Thomas Brown and wife, came from England and settled in Concord; Edward, a brother of Thomas, was Sudbury's first minister. In the line of descent, four brothers, one first minister. In the line of descent, four brothers, one of them William's great-grandfather, stood by their father in the battle at the Old North Bridge; some of them fought through the Revolution; one early ancestor lost his life in the Indian Wars. Two of his brothers enlisted in the Civil War; one of them afterward an officer of the Samtary Commission. From the first the Brown families have been as loyal to the church as they have been patriotic, holding civil and church offices.

His character and work maintained these fine traditions. A quiet and modest man, he was true and steadfast to principle and duty; of wise judgment, active in all that pertains to good citizenship, faithful to the ideals and dignity of the pastoral office. In whatever communities he ministered he was honored. In youth the extreme Calvinism of his college seemed rather to intensify the liberal tendencies of his mind, and he became

intensify the liberal tendencies of his mind, and he became as firm and pronounced in the ministry of a progressive faith of religion as he was sympathetic with all humane and educational movements. He was most conscientious and methodical in work; wrote his sermons thoughtfully; recorded with care the incidents and experiences of his ministry

He was buried with his fathers at Sleepy Hollow, Concord, Mass.

Mrs. Frances E. Perham died on Sunday, March 27, 1910.

She was born in Tyngsborough, August 17, 1845, and was the daughter of Zephaniah and Polly (Woodward) Rennett

She married George O. Perham in 1868 and lived all her life in this town. She was a member of the Unitarian Society and the V. I. A. Through ill health she was not able to take active part in social life during her last years.

Mrs. Harriet E. Butterfield, wife of Jesse B. Butterfield, passed away on April 5, 1910. She was born in Marlboro, Mass., June 15, 1844, and was the daughter of Otis and Lovina (Rice) Russell, being the fifteenth child, and the eighth daughter.

On November 1, 1866, she married Jesse B. Butterfield and came to Tyngsborough to live at the "Butterfield Homestead," her husband being the fifth generation of the name on the place.

She was an active member of the Unitarian Society, an efficient worker in the V. I. A., and deeply interested in all objects relative to the public good.

Her especial joy was the homecoming of her two sons, daughter and three grandchildren.

Mrs. Ellen Bancroft Blanchard died at her home in the village, June 6, 1910.

She was the daughter of Jonathan and Eliza Jane (Kendall) Bancroft, born in Tyngsborough, March 12, 1840, and was married to William Blanchard in 1872.

She was an experienced school teacher, having taught in the schools of Tyngsborough, Dunstable, Dracut, and Nashua.

She was a member of the Evangelical Church and the V. I. A., and worked in her quiet way for the general good.

Mrs. Mary E. Brinley Kennedy died June 15, 1910, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Danforth, in whose family she had lived for several years.

She was the daughter of Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Bridge) Brinley and was born in the Brinley Mansion, July 26, 1846.

She married Rev. Angus Ross Kennedy of Glasgow, Scotland, Pastor of the Unitarian Church in Tyngsborough. Later she removed to Glasgow, Scotland. After a few years she returned to America and lived near Boston for several years. Returning to Tyngsborough she made her home with Mr. and Mrs. Danforth.

She was descended from a long line of noted ancestors, prominent in the history of our country.

She was a member of the Unitarian Society, V. I. A., and Grange and gave freely to the improvement of the town.

Henry Swan Kidder, son of Zimri and Mary (Swan) Kidder, died at the home of his son Ulysses W. Kidder in Milford, N. H., July 20, 1910. He was born March 22, 1827. When very young he developed a hip disease, which dwarfed one leg to such an extent that he was obliged to use crutches through life. He was a tailor by trade. He passed the most of his life in Alfred and North Berwick, Me.

A few years ago he had a severe sickness which obliged him to leave the shop and be in the open air. Being unfitted for heavy manual labor he obtained the position as flag man and gate tender at Newfields, N. H. About two years ago he moved to Milford, N. H., and made his home with his son.

He married Miss Mary J. Davis of Shapleigh, Me., who, with two sons and two daughters, survive him.

Miss Mary E. Bennett died at her home in Tyngsborough, February 6, 1911. She was born August 17, 1838, and passed her life in the town.

She was the daughter of Zephaniah and Polly (Woodward) Bennett.

She was a member of the Unitarian Society, the V. I. A., and gave freely to all worthy causes.

#### DEATHS IN TYNGSBOROUGH IN 1910

George A. Sutton

Sarah S. Blanchard

Junia L. Lawrence

William Brown

Frances L. Perham

Harriet E. Butterfield

Alice L. Pelletier

Ellen E. Blanchard

Mary E. Kennedy

—— Pelletier

Joseph H. Plummer

William Crossley

William Callahan

Hannah T. Murphy

Thomas McCarthy

Susan G. Baron

#### BIRTHS

Joan I. Dupras

Ralph B. Currier

George A. Sutton

Lillian M. Roberts

Joseph G. Champigny

Jennie Armitage

Lillian P. Melvin

Theodore M. Hull

Richard H. Lambert

Morris E. Woodward

——— Pelletier

Roy A. Ekstom

Joseph A. Peters

Warren T. Roberts

— Gannon

Rose M. O'Hare

— Fletcher

Mary A. Allard

Thomas McCarthy

#### **MARRIAGES**

Michael F. O'Brien and Annie Doherty Hugh Ross Robeson and Elizabeth J. Parker Reginald W. Rose and Mary Colton

## A. FLINT

Horseshoeing and blacksmithing of all kinds. Carriage repairing and wheelwright work of all kinds neatly done. Orders solicited for new wagons, dump carts, sleds, and wheelbarrows. I shall carry a good stock of neck yokes, whiffle trees, heel chains and stake chains. When in need of any of the above articles call and get our prices. All work guaranteed. Bring in your farm wagons and secondhand carriages and have them put in first-class repair and painted at once so they will be ready for spring use.

NY ONE may need them, therefore, every one should have them. When you need them, you will need them worse than anything else for they may be the means of saving everything else in about your home or place of business. This is what they say who have used them, and they ought to know. These are late letters from near-by people, some of whom you may know.

REED'S FERRY, N. H., March 1, 1910.

Dear Sir.—Last Saturday our chimney burned out when only my wife was at home. Before she knew it was burning it had got such a headway that the blaze was streaming out of the chimney a number of feet. She used the contents of one of your extinguishers in the stoves and it quelled the fire at once. Please send powder to refill as you advertise. Would not care to get along without the extinguishers.

Yours truly,

J. H. FOSTER.

BOLTON, MASS., Nov. 28, 1910.

DEAR MR. HOAGLAND:—
Will you kindly send me the powder to fill the Phenix Dry Powder Fire Extinguisher. We have exhausted it and mobile on fire beside our door—a machine valued at \$2,000—and it seemed all our buildings. We feel the extinguisher again as soon at possible. It is a great consolation to know it is hanging on the wall ready for service,

Truly yours,

(REV.) L. D. COCHRANE. We have exhausted it and saved an auto-We feel the extinguisher should be filled

Suncook Mils
Harry J. Ricketson, Agt.

Rev. N. S. Hoagland:
We have recently used two of your fire extinguishing tubes on two separate chimney fires with entire success.

We regard them as a great protection to our tenements.

Yours truly, C. C. TUCKER, Rental Agt.

C. C. TUCKER, Rental Agt.

This Company had purchased fifty only a short time previous. Some of their men had had a satisfactory experience of seven years with the Phenix tubes.

N. S. Hoagland,

Dear Str:—Will you please send me one Phenix Fire Extinguisher. I used mine for a neighbor to extinguish a chimney fireIt gave such satisfaction they wanted I should order one for them at once. I have sent to the Company for powder to refill mine.

E. W. READ.

Thousands have been sold during the last five years through this agency, and the above are but samples of many letters received from satisfied and grateful purchasers. If you have none, we are at your service.

The Warwick Fire Appliance Agency TYNGSBORO, MASS.

Tel. 6-14

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## BRADLEY'S FERTILIZERS

"The Word's Best By Every Test"

Sometimes farmers say they cannot afford to use as much as 1000 lbs. of fertilizer per acre, yet many farmers have proved that as much or more is very profitable to them. How much to use is a problem every one must work out for himself. Our most successful customers say they find as they have increased from year to year the amount of fertilizer used, the easier it has been to pay for it. This is the way they express the greater profit derived from using 1500 to 2000 lbs, per acre instead of a smaller quantity on their market crops.

Many of them use a ton to the acre of Bradley's High Grade Fertilizer and find that it pays in the crop marketed and in the upkeep or improvement of the land for succeeding crops. You cannot tell without experimenting how much fertilizer will pay you best. If you have not already solved this problem, begin next season and use BRADLEY'S FERTILIZERS. Ask our local agents for new descriptive booklet and calendar for 1911.

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2 Rector St., New York.

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## William L. Nutting PIANOS ODD FELLOWS BLDG., 4 Temple St., Nashua, N. H.

## A. A. FLINT

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COAL BY TON OR CARLOAD ALL KINDS

Special Fertilizers For Sale by W. E. BARRY, Tynsboro, Mass.



THIS Brand is sold by all live merchants. It is the most popular Popular-Priced Clothing worn to-day. If you wish for Style, Fit and Service, ask your dealer for the R. S. & W. Brand.

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The best material is used. Crackers always fresh, crisp, and unexcelled. We bake Soda and Oyster Crackers every day and they cannot be excelled for quality. Don't buy crackers of uncertain age shipped from out of town.

#### NASHUA BAKING CO.

II and 13 MULBERRY ST.

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Agricultural Lime

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Building Mover

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Tyngsboro, - - Mass.

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Rambler Roses, Easter Lilies, Azaleas, Hyacinths, Tulips, Daffodils, Genistas, Bougainvillæs, Lily of the Valley, Spirea, Geraniums, Pink and Blue Hydrangeas, White Lilac and Foliage Plants,

Odd Fellows Temple

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Choice Steaks and Roasts

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Your choice of chain or belt drive

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tons

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## Central Savings Bank Clarence W. Whidden, Pres. Arthur J. Murkland, Treas.

FO Classical St. Tarrell Mr.

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### Charles P. Littlehale

Notary Public

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